IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re patent application of:

Thomas J. Foth, et al) Attorney Docket No.: E-974

Serial No.: n/a) Group Art Unit: n/a

Filed: Concurrently herewith) Date: December 29, 1999

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING ELECTRONIC

REFUNDS IN AN ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Shapiro

Reg. No. 35,677 Attorney of Record

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PITNEY BOWES INC. Intellectual Property and Technology Law Department 35 Waterview Drive P.O. Box 3000 Shelton, CT 06484-8000

Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

One copy of each of the references

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FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)					Atty. Docket Number E-974				Serial No. 60		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE					Applicant				D 60		
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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS		FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	AA	5,590,197	31Dec.1996	James F. Chen, et al		380	24		4Apr1995		
	AB	5,855,008	29Dec1998	A. Nathaniel Goldhaber, et al D. Chase Franklin, et al		705	14		28Aug1997		
	AC	5,883,810	16Mar1999			364	479.02		24Sep1997		
	AD	5,956,400	21Sep1999	David Ch	naum, et al	380	4		19Jul1996		
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next											
communication to applicant.											